(b) As per existing items and norms of expenditure for assistance for relief funds *i.e.* Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) in the wake of natural calamities including hailstorm, assistance towards agriculture input subsidy is admissible to small and marginal farmers where crop loss on account of natural calamities is 50% and above. @ Rs. 1000/- per hectare for rainfed areas, Rs. 2500/- per hectare for irrigated areas and Rs. 4000/- per hectare for perennial crops. As per the existing norms, input subsidy is also admissible to farmers, other than small & marginal farmers, in case of severe calamity occurring for second consecutive year (or subsequent year) at the above retes and subject to the condition that the subsidy will be payable at appropriate rate per hectare upto 2 hectares only, irrespective of size of holding.

The Government of Uttar Pradesh have informed that Rs. 40 lakhs for Banda district, Rs. 200 lakhs for Mahoba district, Rs. 15 lakhs for Hamirpur district and Rs. 500 lakhs for Lalitpur district have been allotted for providing agriculture input subsidy and Rs. 50.21 lakhs for Mahoba district and Rs. 7.57 lakhs for Lalitpur district have been allotted for providing assistance for repair/reconstruction of damaged houses, as per norms of expenditure for assistance from CRF/NCCF.

(c) No, Sir.

Acquisition of fertile land

1203. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total cultivable land acquired for development in the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) how far acquisition of fertile land for such development has adversely affected the agricultural production;

(c) how far such less production of agriculture has hiked the prices of the essential commodities; and

(d) what further steps have been taken by Government to ban acquisition of fertile land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) Land is State subject. Each State has its specific land acquisition policy based upon the Land Acquisition Act. Acquisition of land by the State Government for various purposes is governed by their respective policies and procedures. The Board of Approvals for Specials Economic Zones constituted in the Ministry of Commerce considers only those proposals which have been recommended by the State Governments. The State Governments have been advised that in case of land acquisition of Special Economic Zones, first priority should be given to acquisition of waste and barren land and if necessary single crop agricultural land could be acquired. State-wise list of formal and in principal approval for setting up of Special Economic Zones along-with details of the land is given in Statement (*See* below).

Government of India is implementing a Centrally-Sponsored Programme for Strengthening State Land Use Board under Macro Management of Agriculture in country. State Land Use Boards have been constituted in almost all States and Union Territories under the Chairmanship of the Chief Minister or Other Senior functionaries of the State Governments. One of the mandates of the State Land Use Board is to take suitable steps to prevent the conversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes.

Statement

State-wise list of approved SEZ

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	No. of SEZs for which formal approval granted	Area (in hectares)	No. of cases in which 'in principle' approval granted	Area (in hectares)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	44	9387.957	09	3768.39
2.	Assam	-	-	-	-
3.	Bihar	-	-	-	-
4.	Chandigarh	02	87.49	-	-
5.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	02	80

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	-	01	80
7.	Delhi	01	6	-	-
8.	Goa	04	290.98	-	-
9.	Gujarat	19	10682.25	10	5439
10.	Haryana	19	818.408	27	43002
11.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	03	5030
12.	Jharkhand	01	36	-	-
13.	Karnataka	27	1566.339	17	4720.962
14.	Kerala	10	569.651	02	414
15.	Madhya Pradesh	04	7125	06	9309.25
16.	Maharashtra	47	8130.8	25	33041.09
17.	Orissa	05	745.61	08	4263.3
18.	Pondicherry	01	346	-	-
19.	Punjab	04	252	07	1571
20.	Rajasthan	03	89.23	08	13351.52
21.	Tamil Nadu	25	1300.571	12	5078.02
22.	Uttarnachal	03	468.2	01	14
23.	Uttar Pradesh	08	133.83	10	5954.25
24.	West Bengal	07	170.26	14	11827.14
	TOTAL:	234	35152.826	162	148892.2

Rate of growth of agricultural production

1204. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a sharp and steady drop in the rate of growth of agricultural production over the last 25 years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that at the national level, average agricultural growth decelerated from an average of 3.2 per cent during 1980-1922 to just 2.4 per cent over 1992—2003; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to address the problems the agricultural sector is facing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir. The growth rate of agricultural production, measured in terms of GDP from agriculture including livestock sector